

Application No. 10/726,535
Amendment dated April 21, 2008
Reply to Office Action of November 20, 2007

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

Docket No.: 0630-1874P

APR 21 2008

REMARKS

Claims 2 and 10 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 7 is canceled without prejudice, and claim 10 is amended. No new matter is involved.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of claim 2.

Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, for being indefinite. Accordingly, Applicants have amended claim 10 by changing "the thickness" to read - - a thickness - -, and by changing "the stiffness" to read - - a stiffness."

Applicants have also changed "an outer surface" to read - - outer surfaces - -, in line 7, to be consistent with "facing outer surfaces" in line 9 to address the objection to claim 10.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, Applicants believe that the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert J. Webster, Reg. No. 46,472 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

Application No. 10/726,535
Amendment dated April 21, 2008
Reply to Office Action of November 20, 2007

APR 21 2008

Docket No.: 0630-1874P

Applicants respectfully petition under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) and § 1.17 for a two-month(s) extension of time in which to respond to the Examiner's Office Action. The Extension of Time Fee in the amount of \$460.00 is attached hereto.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.147; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: April 21, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 
James T. Eller, Jr.

Registration No.: 39,538
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant

David A. Billodeau
Registration No. 43,325